

**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed to submit two new Claims 51 and 52. This Preliminary Amendment should be considered in conjunction with the Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 and the Request for Continued Examination filed August 6, 2007. It is respectfully submitted that Claim 51 distinguishes over the prior art applied in the Final Rejection Office Action dated April 4, 2007. In contrast to the prior art, Claim 51 recites:

"The method as claimed in Claim 26, wherein said step of exchanging data comprises synchronizing data of a pre-defined hard drive area of said computer with data of said external data storage unit and exchanging the data in packets, and said method further comprises:

continuing monitoring with said program said connection port for an additional signal from said external data storage unit during the exchanging of data;

manually actuating said signal generator in said external data storage unit and generating an additional signal; and

detecting with said program the additional generated signal in between the transfer of two sequential data packets and interrupting the data synchronization."

None of the applied references teaches or suggests the above limitations of Claim 51.

It is also respectfully submitted that Claim 52 distinguishes over the prior art applied in the Final Rejection Office Action. In contrast to the prior art, Claim 52 recites, in part:

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"continuing monitoring with said program said connection port for an additional signal from said external data storage unit during the exchanging of data;  
manually actuating, by pushing said pushbutton actuator, said signal generator in said external data storage unit and generating an additional signal; and  
detecting with said program the additional generated signal in between the transfer of two sequential data packets and interrupting the data synchronization."

None of the applied references teaches or suggests the above limitations of Claim 52.

**Summary and Conclusion:**

It is submitted that Applicants have provided a new and unique MONITORING AND DATA EXCHANGE PROCEDURE FOR A PERIPHERAL DATA STORAGE UNIT. It is submitted that the claims, as presented herein, are fully distinguishable from the prior art. Therefore, it is requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued at an early date.

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Respectfully submitted,

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